



Agenda Item Number: 2006-6-7E

BERNALILLO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: June 27, 2006

Department: Parks and Recreation **Staff Contact:** Ed Chismar, Parks and Rec. Director
Becky Alter, Park Open Space and Trail Planner
Julie M. Baca, Deputy County Manager
for Community Services Division

TITLE: Ditches-with-Trails Project

ACTION: Motion to approve Administrative Resolution AR -2006 supporting the Ditches with Trails effort.

SUMMARY:

The Ditches with Trails Project seeks to evaluate the feasibility of creating a formalized trails system along some of the 300 miles of ditches and drains managed by the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) in Bernalillo County. The MRGCD, North Valley Coalition, Vecinos del Bosque Neighborhood Association, and Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service are partnering to lead a community-based effort to develop a "Ditches with Trails Action Plan." The Action Plan will answer questions about a variety of preservation and management issues—how the system will be maintained and preserved, what the trails will look like, and how public safety concerns will be addressed.

Bernalillo County received State capital outlay funding to implement three pilot projects in the North and South Valleys as a part of this effort, totaling approximately \$650,000 in 2005 and 2006. The Ditches with Trails Steering Committee is seeking acknowledgement from Bernalillo County, City of Albuquerque and the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque through a resolution supporting the preservation, establishment, and management of ditch trails in Bernalillo County. The resolution does not involve financial, operations, or management commitments. Implementation of trails along ditches relies on community support. Operation and maintenance will be determined with development of the Action Plan, which will be completed by the end of 2006.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Administrative Resolution AR -2006 authorizing support of the Ditches-with Trails Project.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact with this action

STAFF ANALYSIS SUMMARY

COUNTY MANAGER

This partnership will provide answers to preservation and management issues of our ditches and trails. There is no fiscal impact to the County. Recommend Board approval. TL 6/12/2006

DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

I recommend that the Board approve the Administrative Resolution referenced herein to support the Ditches-with-Trails Project, which will allow Bernalillo County to partner with interested parties to support the preservation, establishment and management of ditch trails in Bernalillo County. Julie M. Baca 06/05/2006

LEGAL

Approved as to form. JSL 6/5/06

FINANCE

Budget	This resolution does not involve financial, operations, or management commitments. Operation and maintenance will be determined with development of the Action Plan to be completed by the end of 2006. \$100,000 was funded and budgeted through 2005 legislative appropriation in BC07-Grants. \$550,000 was funded through 2006 legislative appropriation and will be included with the 2007-2008 Biennial Budget in BC07-Grants. Amy Childers, Financial Services Administrator 5/30/2006
Purchasing	No comments required. Billie Baca, 05/26/2006
Contracts	No comments required. Billie Baca, 05/26/2006
Risk Management	No comment required. David Baca 5/26/2006